

**Congressman Wally Herger (CA-2)**  
**Floor Remarks on H.R. 3056, the "Tax Collection Responsibility Act"**  
**October 10, 2007**

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the Tax Collection Responsibility Act. This bill would unwisely eliminate an IRS program which collects otherwise uncollected tax debts, refusing as much as \$2.2 billion in revenue. In addition, this abundantly partisan measure does a disservice to the overwhelming bipartisan effort to repeal the 3 percent withholding burden before it takes effect.

In less than 4 years, 3 percent of all payments made by a government to a business or individual providing goods or services will be withheld as a "prepayment" on taxes. This will needlessly reduce cash flows for thousands of businesses across the U.S. Today's bill merely delays 3 percent withholding implementation for one year, but that does not solve this real and pressing problem. What Congress should do is follow the broader proposal my friend Kendrick Meek of Florida and I have introduced, repealing withholding outright.

Pairing a scaled-back one-year delay with the Majority's repeal of the Private Collection Agency program wrongly splits the broad-based full repeal initiative. The Meek-Herger proposal has 219 cosponsors from both parties. Further, the closed rule prohibits a Republican substitute that would have provided for consideration of full 3 percent withholding repeal alone and on its own merit.

I urge members to reject this flawed bill and yield back the balance of my time.